

MC-130 (\$647,328,000). I would ban earmarks as we know them, but as long as these earmarks are available, I'm going to apply for them in an effort to pursue federal funding opportunities for my district. For defense projects in the current earmarking system, the individual projects I sponsor have the support of our military and further our national security. These projects are vetted by the professional staff on the House Armed Services and House Appropriations Committees during the appropriations process. I only request funds for projects authorized by law for federal funding and do not do so for private parties or entities. This project will provide funding to replace and augment the aging USAF fleets of combat rescue HC-130P/N and special operations MC-130E/P aircraft which are experiencing airworthiness, maintainability and operational limitations. This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because defines a common baseline configuration for the weapon system and a FY 2012 Initial Operational Capability. The JROC validated the CDD in Nov 2007. Beneficiary: SAF/AQQ, Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301.